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Convention. In order to stem the actions of the federal Congress. This is the fourth power and we have waited far too long to exercise it. Were this a resolution, I would happily accept Senator Lewis' amendment, but it is not, and in the interest of confining as narrowly as possible this call for a Convention to the specific purpose, I say let's don't cloud it with nonsensical and almost irrelevant amendments that will confuse the issue. There is considerable concern as to whether or not a specific amendment can be considered by a Constitution in a convention but there is also considerable doubt that if there are too many subjects entered that the convention then could get out of hand. I would very much oppose Senator Lewis' amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, during the bicentennial year of the United States of America, I think it is appropriate that we discuss all aspects or as many aspects as we can of the relationship between the states and the federal government. Remember the federal government, Senator Barnett, is a government of granted powers. Only those given to the federal government by the states does the federal government have the power to utilize. However, there are certain implied powers and this is the wide area that allows things to come in that Senator Murphy and others may be concerned about. For Senator Luedtke, the libertarian, and I say that in the most constructive positive sense because that is what I like to feel that I am, I am surprised that where I hear so much about the majority ruling on the floor of this Legislature whether its decision be just or unjust, the mere fact that more say it ought to make it prevail, that very principle should cause you to want a Constitutional Convention to see what the majority of people in this country want and they certainly should not limit their deliberations to Senator Murphy's narrow interest. He is entitled to say he is concerned only about balancing the budget but Senator Clark, for example, told me the other day, he wants them to repeal the 14th amendment. Well, from my point of view, I don't want them to. So we have people with different points of view in this country and a Constitutional Convention gives us the opportunity to have all of these views aired in a very formal and serious form. We can determine whether or not this is, in fact, a more perfect Union. We can determine whether this is to be a loose confederation of independent sovereignties, 50 of them, or whether or not, as a matter of fact, a unified central government was established to rule this whole country and the states are the components of it but no state or collection of states is superior to the federal government itself. You can be upset with individual policies that that government institutes but the power of the government to do these things is unquestioned under the Constitution and the laws as they exist now. If you don't like the way the federal government operates, you must restructure it. Either you are going to do it the way Senator Murphy